

**ELK TOWNSHIP  
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
February 7, 2019**

The Regular Meeting of the Elk Township Committee was held on the above date in the Municipal Building. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Sammons at 7:00PM.

The Open Public Meeting Notice was read. The Salute to the Flag and the Lord's Prayer were recited in unison.

Present were: Mr. Hollywood, Mrs. Nicholson, Mr. Poisker, Mr. Rambo, Mayor Sammons, Mr. Considine, CFO, and Mrs. Pine, Township Clerk, Mr. Duffield, Solicitor, Mr. Bitgood and Lt. Hughes.

Approval of minutes of January 15, 2019 Work Session

Motion by Mrs. Nicholson, seconded by Mr. Hollywood to approve the minutes of the January 15, 2019 Work Session, motion carried with Mr. Poisker abstaining.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mrs. Nicholson announced the Environmental Commission will be meeting Wednesday, February 13, 2019 at 7PM. The Girl Scouts will be presenting their Silver Award Project, which will be a sign in Elephant Swamp Park.

Arbor Day will be held on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Sammons mentioned the 2019 JIF Safety Breakfast will be held on Thursday, February 21, 2019 at Auletto's Catering in Deptford.

Mayor Sammons announced the Movie in the Park this year, in conjunction with Gloucester County Parks and Recreation will be on August 16<sup>th</sup>. They will be showing Hotel Transylvania 3-Summer Vacation. The movie will begin at dusk.

**POLICE CHIEF REPORT**

Lt. Hughes reported the Police Department received 1014 calls of service, issued 257 motor vehicle summons and 1 warning, responded to 6 crashes with 0 injuries and made 14 arrests.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Mr. Rambo read the January 2019 reports from the Fire Companies. Aura Fire Company 39-1 responded to 13 calls for service. The company held their annual Installation dinner to swear in the 2019 officers. The new truck has been shipped to the dealer and they expect delivery sometime in February. Lawn's Fire Company 39-3 responded to 3 calls.

Ferrell Fire Company 39-2 responded to 15 calls for service.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Mr. Bitgood stated there are no changes in his report from last month. The NJ DOT responded to his letter concerning the drainage on Route 77 and they are working on the issue.

Mr. Poisker asked if the lights are operational in Valle del Sol. They are now working.

**PUBLIC PORTION:**

Motion by Mr. Nicholson to open the meeting to the public, seconded by Mr. Hollywood, all were in favor, motion carried.

Mayor Sammons asked if anyone had any questions on agenda items to come forward at this time. No one came forward.

Motion by Mr. Hollywood to close the public portion, seconded by Mrs. Nicholson, all were in favor, motion carried.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**RESOLUTION R-35-2019**

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATION OF CHARLES A. DEFALCO AS POLICE CHIEF OF THE ELK TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT AND AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A SEPARATION AGREEMENT AND RELEASE**

Motion by Mr. Poisker, seconded by Mr. Hollywood to adopt and approve said Resolution, upon roll call motion carried.

Roll Call:	Mr. Hollywood	Yes
	Mrs. Nicholson	Yes
	Mr. Poisker	Yes
	Mr. Rambo	Yes
	Mayor Sammons	Yes

**RESOLUTION R-36-2019**

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING STEVEN J. HUGHES AS CHIEF OF POLICE OF THE ELK TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Motion by Mr. Rambo, seconded by Mr. Poisker, a third by Mr. Hollywood, a fourth by Mrs. Nicholson and a fifth by Mayor Sammons, to adopt and approve said Resolution, upon roll call motion carried.

Roll Call:	Mr. Hollywood	Yes
	Mrs. Nicholson	Yes
	Mr. Poisker	Yes
	Mr. Rambo	Yes
	Mayor Sammons	Yes

Chief Hughes was sworn in by Committeeman James Rambo with his nephew, wife and mother holding the Bible.

**RESOLUTION R-37-2019**

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING A LIEUTENANT WITHIN THE ELK TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT – EDWARD GONNELLI**

Motion by Mr. Rambo, seconded by Mr. Poisker to adopt and approve said Resolution, upon roll call motion carried.

Roll Call:	Mr. Hollywood	Yes
	Mrs. Nicholson	Yes
	Mr. Poisker	Yes
	Mr. Rambo	Yes
	Mayor Sammons	Yes

Lt. Gonnelli was sworn in by Mayor Sammons with his wife and daughters holding the Bible.

**RESOLUTION R-38-2019**

**RESOLUTION EXTENDING DUE DATE FOR FIRST QUARTER 2019 TAXES**

Motion by Mr. Hollywood, seconded by Mrs. Nicholson to adopt and approve said Resolution, upon roll call motion carried.

Roll Call:	Mr. Hollywood	Yes
	Mrs. Nicholson	Yes
	Mr. Poisker	Yes
	Mr. Rambo	Yes
	Mayor Sammons	Yes

**RESOLUTION R-39-2019**  
**RESOLUTION AMENDING R-18-2019 – REAPPOINTING SPECIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT**  
**OFFICERS-CLASS II FOR THE ELK TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Motion by Mr. Poisker, seconded by Mr. Rambo to adopt and approve said Resolution, upon roll call motion carried.

Roll Call:	Mr. Hollywood	Yes
	Mrs. Nicholson	Yes
	Mr. Poisker	Yes
	Mr. Rambo	Yes
	Mayor Sammons	Yes

**RESOLUTION R-40-2019**  
**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF A PERFORMANCE BOND PROVIDED BY WASTE**  
**MANAGEMENT OF NEW JERSEY, INC.**

Motion by Mr. Rambo, seconded by Mr. Hollywood to adopt and approve said Resolution, upon roll call motion carried.

Roll Call:	Mr. Hollywood	Yes
	Mrs. Nicholson	Yes
	Mr. Poisker	Yes
	Mr. Rambo	Yes
	Mayor Sammons	Yes

**GLOUCESTER COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE**, James Schmidt, Director of Fire Safety is the new liaison from Gloucester County.

Mrs. Nicholson asked if the sign post at the corner of Aura Road and Whig Lane can be removed. The right turn is very sharp and there have been several punctured tires from the post that is sticking out of the ground. Mr. Schmidt will notify the county road department.

**PUBLIC PORTION:**

Motion by Mrs. Nicholson to open the meeting to the public, seconded by Mr. Hollywood, all were in favor, motion carried.

Mayor Sammons asked if anyone had any questions or comments or an issue they would like to bring to the township committee's attention to come forward, state your name and address, at this time.

No one came forward.

Motion by Mrs. Nicholson to close the public portion, seconded by Mr. Poisker, all were in favor, motion carried.

**PAY BILLS:**

Motion by Mrs. Nicholson to Pay the Bills, seconded by Mr. Rambo, upon roll call motion was carried.

Roll Call:	Mr. Hollywood	Yes
	Mrs. Nicholson	Yes
	Mr. Poisker	Yes
	Mr. Rambo	Yes
	Mayor Sammons	Yes

Deputy Mayor Nicholson congratulated our new Chief and new Lieutenant, Elk Township is very proud to have them. The police department and township are in good hands. They have the confidence and support of the committee and she wishes them and the entire police department the best.

Mayor Sammons, as a resident of the township for over 20 years, congratulates Chief Steven Hughes and Lt. Ed Gonnelli on their promotion. Both men have deep roots in this town and they know and our neighbors

and our neighborhoods. They have the necessary experience to lead this police department forward. It takes a special kind of person to serve as a police officer. She is glad Chief Hughes and Lt. Gonnelli and the rest of the department are here. You are all greatly appreciated. The best of luck to you going forward in your new leadership roles.

Mr. Poisker echoed what the Mayor and Deputy Mayor stated. He has known these 2 men for a long time and their character speaks for itself. They are going to do a wonderful job, and he thanked them.

Mr. Rambo is looking forward to working with Chief Hughes and Lt. Gonnelli this year. It has been a roller coaster couple of years and they have done a great job. To all the guys in the back of the room, we have an awesome police department, all great guys. This should be a model police department, with the guys we now have running it, the way they care about their jobs and public safety. It feels good to be a part of them. Thank you.

Motion by Mr. Hollywood to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Rambo, all were in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debora R. Pine, RMC, CMC  
Township Clerk